

The Parish of Our Lady & St Hubert Parish Newsletter



Parish Priest: Fr. Roger Peck

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The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham:

Registered Charity No: 234216

5th Sunday of Lent 28th / 29th March

Saturday 28 th	Private Mass	Helen Walter RIP
Sunday 29 th	Private Mass	Special Intention PW
Monday 30 th		
Tuesday 31 st	Private Mass	Special Int. Fr Roger
Wednesday 1 st	Private Mass	People of the Parish
Thursday 2 nd	Private Mass	Special Int. Fr Roger
Friday 3 rd	Private Mass	Maria Garofolo RIP
Saturday 4 th	Private Mass	Special Int. Fr Roger

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday) 4th/ 5th April 2020

Sunday 5 th	Private Mass	People of the Parish
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Owing to the Coronavirus the church will be closed until further notice.

There will be no parish activities during this time.

Dear parishioners,

As I often say - the season of lent has a way of challenging us in all sorts of different and unexpected ways - but the current threat that we are all facing with the spread of the coronavirus is something that I am sure none of us could have possibly imagined. The threat posed is a threat to both our lives and our livelihoods. Please be assured of my prayers at this difficult time.

It is certainly strange celebrating mass on my own - and I am sure it has been a sobering experience for all of you; not being able to attend mass regularly, maybe for the first time in your life. Let us, however, during this time of "sacramental abstinence" unite ourselves to and stand in solidarity with all those in the world for whom regular weekly mass has never been a possibility. Let us especially remember at this time those areas in the world where the distances and numbers involved means that mass can only be celebrated maybe once a month at best - and often even less frequently than that. Let us also unite ourselves at this time to all those who live in areas of the world that do not allow mass to be celebrated, and let us unite ourselves in prayer with prisoners of conscience who are also deprived of the sacraments of the Church.

In the absence of being able to attend mass in person there is always the possibility of watching it online or on the TV. Many churches stream the mass online and EWTN regularly broadcasts the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass as well. Although we do not have the facility to stream the mass from St Hubert's, Fr Des Devenney the Dean of the Dudley Deanery will be streaming his mass from Our Lady and All Saints, Stourbridge. The link can be accessed via their website olas.org.uk or by visiting www.mcnmedia.tv and following the links (England -> westmidlands -> Our Lady and All Saints, Stourbridge). Mass will be celebrated 10-00AM and 5-00PM Saturday, 8-30AM and 10.30AM Sunday and

9-00AM each weekday. I would encourage you to gather as a family and to participate in the celebration as if you were at mass (sitting / standing / kneeling). Although you will be unable to receive our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament you can, at the appropriate time, make a spiritual communion.

Spiritual communion (Taken from A Simple Prayer Book)

Spiritual Communion is the heartfelt desire to receive Our Lord, even when we are unable because of the distance or some other reason. This desire to receive him through spiritual Communion is an act of love, which prolongs our thanksgiving even when we are not in the Eucharistic presence of Our Lord. The wish to live constantly in his presence can be fuelled by acts of love and desire to be united with him and is a means of drawing more deeply from the life of the Holy Spirit dwelling within our souls in the state of grace.

Some examples of Acts of Spiritual Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. (St Alphonsus Ligouri)

I wish, my Lord, to receive You with the purity, humility and devotion with which your Most Holy Mother received You. With the spirit and fervour of the saints. Come Lord Jesus.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You ... give me warmth, delight and quickness in thinking upon You. And give me your grace to long for Your holy sacraments, and specially to rejoice in the presence of Your very blessed Body, Sweet Saviour Christ, in the Holy Sacrament of the altar (St Thomas More).

As well as following the mass online or on TV I would also encourage you to continue with your Lenten Walk With Me Reflections.

Confession

The recent Note from the Apostolic Penitentiary on the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the current epidemic, 20th March 2020 states:

Where the individual faithful find themselves in the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution, it should be remembered that perfect contrition, coming from the love of God, beloved above all things, expressed by a sincere request for forgiveness (that which the penitent is at present able to express) and accompanied by votum confessionis, that is, by the firm resolution to have recourse, as soon as possible, to sacramental confession, obtains forgiveness of sins, even mortal ones (cf. CCC, no. 1452).

Dispensation from Easter Duties

In their letter of Dispensation 18th March 2020, the President and the Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales said "in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time."

Many of the faithful will be aware of their Easter Duties; that is to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. The Code of Canon Law (CIC 920) says each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a

year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year. The requirement for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from the need to be in a state of grace to receive Holy Communion (CIC 916).

Since it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

The Bishops have asked that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that He continually shows us.

This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for His children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again.

An Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Parish Collections: During these difficult times the last thing in the world I would want to do would be to place any undue financial burden on you - so that is the first and most important thing. This is not in any way a request or an appeal for money. However, if you

would like to continue your donations during this current lock-down you can do so by downloading and printing-off and filling in the Standing Order and Gift Aid instructions and sending them to me to fill in the parish bank account details and forward it on to the diocese. The forms and instructions are available online down <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/pages/FAQS/category/finance-resources>

Please Pray for...

All those affected by the Coronavirus

Sick Clergy of the Diocese: Frs Peter Blundell, Peter Gilsenan, Andrew McCann, Tony Haycock, Pat Farrelly, Paul Chavasse, David Bazen, Ivor Morris, Gabby Maguire, Joe Tynan, Michael Crumpton, Graham Wilkinson

The sick of the parish. Especially Evelyn Knight, Teresa Stanley, Pat Walsh, Kath O'Grady, Gabrielle O'Grady, Roberta Crowther, John Lloyd, Lilly Rogers, C. Connolly, Edna Edwards, Barbara O'Brien, Dereck Campbell, John Sawford, Terence Rose, Marion King and Margaret Kelly

Those who have died recently: Maria Garofoalo; Michael James O'Halloran; Fergus Speers

For those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Joseph Peters; Bridget Casey; Elsie Corfield; Gary Spiller; Anthony Nocon, Betty Trickett; Mary Redfern; Leslie Ward; Peggy Martle; Michael Allen, Anne Clifford; Thomas Wood, John Vincent Wood, Michael Cull; Hannah Allen, Michael Harnett; Marie Letts, Nell Olivers; Catherine Cull, Reg Bethel; Valerie Pearce, Carmen Williams; Patric Tacgatt; Robert Wallace, Mary Abbotts; Ruth Mason; Nellie Rock; Bridget Garvin. Charles Robert Edwards, Philippa Teresa Jordon, Francis Paul Wood, Edward John Duffy, Thelma Havelin, John Russell, Thomas Duffy, Maureen Ward, Mary Eva Perkins Ronald Redfern; Helen Walter; Helena Chesterton